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# The Times

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**Let's kick it**  
It was a battle of the local schools on Oct. 12 as Archie Stouffer Elementary School hosted J. Douglas Hodgson Elementary School in a multi-game soccer tournament for Grades 4, 5, and 6. The games were split in wins between the two teams. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

## Scotch Line Landfill work needs another \$125K

by JAMES MATTHEWS  
*Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

Minden Hills will dip into its reserves to cover cost over-runs on the Scotch Line grading and final cover project.  
Mike Timmins, the township's public works director, asked council during its regular meeting Oct. 12 to OK an addition-

al \$125,000, plus taxes, for the work at the Scotch Line Landfill.  
"It's an unfortunate circumstance that we think needs to go ahead to get this done right," he said.  
The township issued a tender in May for grading and the final cover application for a portion of the Scotch Line Landfill. Marquis Snow and Ice Ltd. (MSI) got the contract in July to do the work for \$196,888 plus taxes.

The project, which was part of the 2023 municipal capital budget, had a price tag of \$375,000 from the landfill reserve.  
Brush taller than Timmins was cleared in September and some other site work and surveying was carried out. All the work showed more needed to be done to achieve the desired 4:1 slope for Environmental Compliance Approval (ECA).  
"What we found was a significant change

in scope in order to get this work completed as per the ECA," Timmins said.  
Slopes greater than the 4:1 ratio creates conditions in which water runs too fast and causes washouts.  
"This wasn't an issue on the lower sort of western portion of the project," Timmins said. "But towards the top end of the slope, what we discovered was there's a steep  
see TOWNSHIP page 2



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Cam and Lauren Green are the dreamers and doers behind Fort Treehouse Co., and have built the business around the interests and needs of their family. /Photo by Erin Leydon



The Baltic was the first treehouse the young couple built together, and from this model, they intend to build more near Dahl Forest. /Photo submitted

## Fort Treehouse Co. climbs the ladder to their next project

by EMILY STONEHOUSE  
Editor

For some entrepreneurs, they are discouraged when they're told their heads are in the clouds.

For Lauren and Cam Green, they saw that as an opportunity. The couple are the brains behind Fort Treehouse Co.; Canada's premier luxury treehouse company right here in Minden Hills.

"Our main plan was to become a treehouse construction company," explained Lauren, "but we started renting out the model to offset our starter costs, and we've really enjoyed the hospitality side of things."

Lauren and Cam finished the treehouse model, called "The Baltic", in 2020. Since then, the unit has been consistently rented out to explorers from around the world, and garnered over 348,000 followers on Instagram. "We wanted to combine beautiful, simple Scandinavian designs with experiential travel," said Lauren.

As interest in the concept continued to climb, the couple decided it was time to expand, and on Oct. 2, announced they are moving forward on a new adventure: Hartwood. "We are embarking on Canada's premier lodging experience," they said in their public statement, "an epic 15-acre untamed

woodland escape including three self-contained private treehouse accommodations, a natural spa and a lobby for gathering and tasting."

The location for the new venture will be alongside Dahl Forest in Minden Hills. "We've got a really great relationship with the Dahl family as well as the Land Trust," shared Lauren, "and we are receiving tremendous support at the county level from Scott Ovell (the director of economic development for the county) and HCDC."

Lauren shared that one of the biggest hiccups in the process so far has been zoning in Minden Hills. In order to pursue the project, the property needed to be rezoned from rural to tourism/commercial development; a process which took over a year and a half to complete. "There's always something," said Lauren, "but we made sure we went through some heavy duty environmental assessments to move forward."

Lauren and Cam keep the concept of environmental sustainability on the forefront of all their projects. As outdoor enthusiasts themselves, the two met at Camp Wanakita when they were young, and spent a decade as friends before getting together and starting a family. "We really find so much value in the time outside," said Lauren.

With that interest in the outdoors in mind, Cam attended a course in Vermont on sustainable treehouse building. The idea was that the couple would dive into some personal projects for fun. But neither of them saw what the dream could

snowball into.

"Nothing like this has ever been done before in Canada," said Lauren, in reference to the Hartwood endeavour, which has already broken ground and is moving forward with building. She noted that the lobby portion has been built, and the next steps are to secure the hardware in the trees. But she shared that the builders need to work around the footprint of the trees that already exist. "Our priority is to have as little impact on the surrounding landscapes," she said. "Nothing makes me more emotional than the climate crisis, so we are in the business of protecting all the trees we're working around."

And in return, the trees offer an experience unlike any other. "So many people come to this community and they just want to go to the lake," said Lauren. "But we are realizing that there's something so magical about spending time in a forest. Surrounded by trees. It can be so powerful."

The couple hopes that one day they can expand their offerings, and collaborate with other local businesses to continue to foster the vision of Fort Treehouse in the community. Lauren hopes that at Hartwood, the lobby - which will be a stop off the Rail Trail for coffee, tea, snacks, and wine tastings - can also double as a facility to host events, workshops, and community gatherings.

"We think it's so cool to challenge yourself," said Lauren, "this really is an adventure."

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## Township agrees to spend now and save later

from page 1

drop-off."

It's essentially a cliff where waste material at the landfill was placed and hadn't been graded or levelled, he said.

In order to meet ECA requirements, the original work area of about 3,862 square meters requires expansion to allow the contractor to address the leachate, and ensure adequate drainage and erosion prevention.

The expansion of the work area has resulted in an increase in material and equipment time to extend the slopes and fill large gullies.

The change "greatly expanded our work footprint," Timmins said.

Factoring in the additional cost required to meet the township's ECA requirements, the project remains under budget by about \$53,000.

"This was not a contractor issue," he said. "This was not a situation of bidding low and coming in for extras. This was a clear change of scope that was not accounted for in the original discussion."

Councillor Ivan Ingram said the township would likely be on hook for more money later if the work isn't done properly now. Should the Ministry of Environment deem the work insufficient without the extra \$125,000, remediation costs could be steeper.

To give an adequate visualization of the area being worked on, Mayor Bob Carter said the portion of landfill to be capped is about the size of three or four football fields.

"Roughly, I would say that's pretty close," Timmins said. "And the expansion by pushing it, I bet we probably expand that by a third."

"This isn't somebody's back yard," Carter said. "It's a large area and therefore a lot more work."



# HHHS asks Haliburton County for \$1M

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Haliburton Highlands Health Services has its eyes set on optimizing health and wellbeing in the county.

And \$1-million from the county will go a long way to achieving that goal.

Veronica Nelson, the Haliburton Highlands Health Services' interim president and CEO, and Melanie Klodt Wong, executive director of the health service foundation, asked Haliburton County council for \$1-million Oct. 11 to bolster diagnostic imaging services.

Optimizing diagnostic imaging in Haliburton County's health care system will cost as much as \$4.3-million.

"A little bit of sticker shock," said Klodt Wong. "The cost of this project is significantly more than we have raised in recent years."

The project's purse includes construction costs, the prices of the CT scanner and CT mammography gear, picture archive upgrades, and ultrasound replacement.

The HHHS foundation typically raises \$700,000 to \$800,000 annually. That covers upgrades and general equipment replacement, Klodt Wong said.

She acknowledged that the diagnostic imaging effort is a large undertaking, but it's importance to people dwarfs its magnitude. She said it's a need that shouldn't take many years to meet.

"They need these funds now," Klodt Wong said.

Hospitals receive limited provincial funding to cover operating expenses and nominal contributions towards minor medical equipment, Klodt Wong said. "Health boards have

complex jobs including upholding standards of safe, quality care, overseeing the finances of multi-million-dollar organization and setting the strategic and master plans."

Funding from the provincial government is limited to operating expenses and "nominal contributions towards minor medical equipment," she said.

"Foundations were created to take the pressure off hospital services to fund-raise for needs not covered by the Ontario government."

There are four annual fundraisers that support local health care. And there's individual contributions from people and various groups and events.

Klodt Wong said \$6-million has been transferred to HHHS over about 14 years. That money secured such equipment as a portable X-Ray machine, beds, telemetry, support for palliative care, and much more.

"We know there's a lot of support for health care in the county," Klodt Wong said. "However, we haven't seen the influx of donations for health care here as you may see in larger centres."

Cottagers who live in the area part-time tend to give about 30 per cent what they would donate to health service providers in their primary area of residence.

"We're at a time when we need to open up avenues again to raise larger sums for bigger objectives," she said.

Nelson said HHHS is grateful to the foundation and residents for the contributions that has enabled it to provide health care. State-of-the-art equipment is essential for accessible care and future growth in the region.

"We want everyone to benefit and everyone in our county deserves care locally at the minimum standard," she said. "And that is having access to mammography and CT

locally."

Nelson said one of the first questions heard from people considering moving to Haliburton County is about the quality of health care. And, she said, one of the questions from physicians being courted to work at HHHS is about CT scanning availability.

"Many of them turn their heads and don't decide to relocate here because we don't have that digital tool that is really a necessity in primary care and emergency medicine," Nelson said.

Having local CT scan capability will save \$200,000 in transporting patients outside the county for the service.

"And that doesn't include those patients that are helicoptered out," she said.

Klodt Wong said the \$1-million is essential to recruiting physicians and building the local health care system. And they would need the money in the next year.

Councillor Murray Fearrey, the mayor of Dysart, said council made a commitment when it funded the hospitals in Minden Hills and Haliburton. He said one per cent of the tax base would generate about \$200,000. A one per cent commitment over five years would be half of what's asked.

To get the \$1-million would require two per cent over two and half years, he said.

"That seems like not a big increase and, at the same time, something that's needed for all county taxpayers," Fearrey said. "And we're going to save that on the ambulance on the other end."

Mike Rutter, the county's CAO, suggested the possibility of funds from reserves purses that could be paid back.

"I can't say definitively at this point that we can do that," he said. "But I think that might be a possibility."

"So the impact would be no greater on the

taxpayer," said Warden Liz Danielsen, the mayor of Algonquin Highlands.

"No change to the taxpayer," Rutter said. "We would borrow the money and then pay that back to the reserve over another four years after this year."

"I think we need to do all the math here, including seeing what else is in the budget," said Coun. Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills. "I know this is an extremely important thing, but we need to see what our tax increase will be. We can say it's only one per cent or only two per cent. But if it's on top of five or six or seven (per cent) already, then it gets to be a bit more difficult."

Carter suggested the HHHS request be worked into the budget process in order to get a clearer picture of finances.

"I really believe we should give them the money as soon as possible," said Coun. Walt McKechnie, the deputy mayor of Dysart. "This is an important thing for every person who lives in Haliburton County."

Fearrey said the Haliburton County Public Library has an annual budget of \$1.4-million.

"Higher per capita than anywhere in the province that I can find," Fearrey said. "There are ways of saving money here and being efficient. I think that we can find the two per cent."

Danielsen agreed, but "I would like to see us give our CAO and director of corporate services an opportunity to have a clearer response for us on how this can be financed and what the impact would be."

She suggested a decision could be deferred until the next meeting when they have that information from staff.

"If that sounds reasonable to members of council," Danielsen said. "There's absolutely no question the level of importance that his decision has to all of us in the county."

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Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipality Act. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The scheduled upcoming meetings are:

**October 26- Regular Council Meeting**  
**November 9 - Regular Council Meeting**

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by attending in-person or a live-stream link available on the Township CivicWeb Portal at [mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx](http://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx) or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting; please download by visiting our CivicWeb Portal at [mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx](http://mindenhills.civicweb.net/Portal/MeetingTypeList.aspx). Please note the live stream file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting.

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### WASTE DISPOSAL SITES

Waste Reduction Week in Canada

October 16th to the 22nd we are celebrating Waste Reduction Week! Follow the Minden Hills Facebook page as we share information to better understand issues of waste. We will also be sharing daily waste reduction tips that you can easily implement at home. We can all advance the circular economy in many ways: share, repair, reuse, recycle, and advocate.

### CULTURAL CENTRE

*Shifting Lens*, a group exhibit featuring 15 artists from the Eastern Hub of the Ontario Society of Artists, will be on display until November 25, 2023, in the Agnes Jamieson Gallery. Admission is by donation. The Gallery is open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Admission is by donation. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email [culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca](mailto:culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca)

*Haunting in Minden Hills* will take place at the Cultural Centre on Saturday, October 28 from 10 am – 4 pm. This family friendly event will feature costume contests, pumpkin carving, spooky dance workshop and dance party, colouring sheet contest, sci-fi book sale and fun Halloween games and crafts. Admission is by donation. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email [culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca](mailto:culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca)

Join the Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Haliburton County Public Library for a special screening of the documentary *Unwanted Soldiers*, taking place at the Cultural Centre on Thursday, November 9 starting at 5 pm. Admission is free, but donations are welcome. Proceeds will go to the Royal

Canadian Legion Branch 636 - Minden. The film is provided courtesy of the NFB. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email [culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca](mailto:culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca)

PA Day movies at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre! The Minden Hills Cultural Centre and Haliburton County Public Library welcome you to join us in a series of PA Day movies during the school calendar year of 2023 and 2024. On every PA Day starting at 1:00 PM, there will be a free, family-friendly movie screening that takes place in the Welch Room of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. Our next movie is scheduled for Friday, November 17. No registration is required. Snacks will be provided, however, please feel free to bring your own as well. The movie of choice will be decided by voters who cast their votes at the Haliburton County Public Library, Minden Branch, or online at the following link: <https://www.haliburtonlibrary.ca/Programs-Events/PA-Day-Movies?id=1696611600-186416>. For more information, please call 705-286-3763 or email [culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca](mailto:culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca)



# Finding bravery and community with the Red Wolves

by **VIVIAN COLLINGS**  
*Times Staff*

When walking through the doors of Fast Lane Bowling in Minden on a Wednesday afternoon, sounds of laughter, cheer, and the familiar, satisfying crashing of pins fills the ears.

Next comes the visual.

Ear to ear smiles, high fives, hugs, and thumbs up in the air paint a scene of companionship.

Finally, and undebatably best of all, is getting to converse with the most joyful, driven, accepting group of people in the county.

“It’s about being a friend, it’s about being visible in the community, it’s about inclusion, it’s about showing everyone their gifts,” said Yvette Brauer, Haliburton Red Wolves volunteer and coach.

## History

It’s impossible to feel anything but happy around the athletes and volunteers, and it’s no wonder the organization has been flourishing since 1996.

The Red Wolves are a group of local athletes with intellectual disabilities. Under the umbrella of Special Olympics Ontario (SOO), the local not-for-profit organization offers bowling, curling, Bocce, golf, softball, and shuffleboard.

All athletes are involved in bowling every Wednesday.

“Everyone’s happy when they get a strike themselves, but if someone two lanes over gets a strike, they’re just as happy,” said Tracey Pratt, a Red Wolves volunteer. “Everyone’s unconditionally supportive of each other. There’s no judgement from anyone.”

The organization was spearheaded by Linda Brandon 27 years ago.

“In 2007, Linda gave up the bowling ball and went back to school to become a teacher,” said Brauer. “The rest is history. Here we are now.”

Brauer came to Haliburton County in 2005 and has been involved with the team ever since.

Pratt has been an official volunteer since 2010, but has been involved with the team since her daughter Skylar became a Red Wolf in 2005.

A few of the volunteers reminisced on travelling to Charlottetown, PEI in 2018 with a group of athletes to the Special Olympic National Games and won a bronze, two silver medals, and a gold.

“We always have such a blast,” said volunteer and coach Rick West. “I go to help out, to coach, but I learn so much more from them than I think they do of me.”

## The team today

There are currently 32 athletes on the Red Wolves team, and nearly as many volunteers.

Summer is busier, but athletes have the opportunity to see each other twice a week in the winter if they curl as well as bowl.



But again, it’s not just about the sports. It’s about all the great things that come from bringing together a group of outstanding humans.

“Everyone’s happy when they get a strike themselves, but if someone two lanes over gets a strike, they’re just as happy,” said Pratt. “Everyone’s unconditionally supportive of each other. There’s no judgement from anyone.”

The volunteers said not only does the team build strong connections with each other, they also bond with the helpers.

“Volunteering means being a friend. The more we get together, the stronger friendships become. It builds community within the team as well. They support each other so much,” Brauer explained. “You could be having a bad day, but once you go, you can’t help but feel better.”

West said competing in the Special Olympics also gives athletes a sense of independence.

“When we go away to compete, it’s just coaches that go so it builds confidence within the athletes and their caregivers that they’re very capable. Our athletes are so dedicated. They want to practice and learn. They have so much motivation,” he said.

## Bowl-A-Thon

Their annual Bowl-A-Thon has been a tradition since 2010. This year, the fundraiser will be held on Saturday, Oct. 28



**Kim Buie celebrates after getting a spare during the Haliburton Red Wolves bowling practice. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff**

**Left, Russell Whetstone shows off his Toronto Maple Leafs bowling ball.**

at Fast Lane Bowling. There will be a flight from 2 to 4 p.m. and one from 4 to 6 p.m.

“Of all the money raised, our athletes have raised half themselves with their pledge sheets, and the money goes back to the athletes themselves,” West said.

Funds are used to reduce or complete eliminate the cost of playing each sport and also helps send them to competitions.

There will be prizes for participants in a variety of categories, and everyone is encouraged to dress up for Halloween.

Teams can register for the Bowl-A-Thon by contacting West at 705-457-8855 or sending a message to the Haliburton Red Wolves on Facebook.

“It’s always such a fun day, one of the best of the year for us. We can’t wait,” said West.

The team is always accepting new athletes and welcomes new volunteers, too.

“No matter their ability level, we’re there to help and guide and coach,” said Brauer.

Donations to the Haliburton Red Wolves can be made via e-transfer to [haliburtonredwolves@gmail.com](mailto:haliburtonredwolves@gmail.com). Donations over \$20 are eligible for a tax receipt.

“We really are a big family. I know it sounds cheesy, but it’s true,” said Pratt.

# Minden Hills haunting moves to cultural centre

by **JAMES MATTHEWS**  
*Local Journalism Initiative Reporter*

Do you know about the haunting in Minden Hills?

Candace McGuigan, the township’s parks, recreation, and facilities manager, gave a few hints about the haunted cultural centre during council’s regular meeting Oct. 12.

Actually, The Haunting at Minden Hills is an event conceived of this summer. It will take place at the Cultural Centre Oct. 28 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Admission is by donation.

It will include a costume contest, Halloween games, a pumpkin carving contest, and a dance. Local ghosts and ghouls can avail of scary face painting, a colouring sheet contest, sci-fi book sale, and a zombie dance workshop.

Prizes up for grabs in the contests have been sponsored by local businesses including Molly’s Bistro Bakery, Minden Experience, and others.

The event was developed to provide a full family day event that incorporated the same activities as previous years spread over a longer duration of time. Participants will receive candy bags, as well as fresh popcorn and have many activities avail-

able throughout the day.

Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell said she’s concerned about there being enough room for participants should it rain on the appointed day. She’s concerned that a previous annual Halloween event was quite popular and this location may not be able to accommodate the number of people.

“It’s during the day where people are working,” she said. “There’s hockey and stuff going on. I’m all about new events and stuff ... if we had known about this in the summer that there wasn’t going to be a family event on the Friday night like there has been for many years, I just think it would’ve been an easier sell to the public.”

Schell hopes The Haunting at Minden Hills is a success, but she’s bracing for some complaints from the public.

“Won’t be the first time, probably won’t be the last,” Schell said of receiving unfavourable public feedback.

Councillor Bob Sisson suggested the event’s time be opened until 8 p.m. He said that timeframe would accommodate more people.

McGuigan said the local Ontario Junior Hockey League team, the Haliburton County Huskies, are slated to be on

the ice that night when they lock horns with the Cobourg Cougars.

Traffic is a concern, said McGuigan.

Coun. Pam Sayne said it would be nice to have kids and their parents at the same event, which doesn’t often happen between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. with working parents.

Coun. Tammy McKelvey described some of the hiccups that has been associated with previous Halloween events in the municipality.

Coun. Ivan Ingram said last year was a success and McGuigan, who is new to the job, didn’t have a lot of time to work in to plan the event.

“If it’s good, it’s good,” he said. “If it isn’t, it isn’t. Like you said, you’ve got to try things to find out if they’re going to be successful. You’re doing the best you can with what you have.”

He said it’d be nice if council in the spring of the year could have a schedule of events planned to take place throughout the year.

“Good luck with your event,” Ingram said.





## Fire away!

The Minden Hills Fire Department hosted their annual Fire Prevention Week Open House on Oct. 13 at the Minden Fire Hall. Kids of all ages visited the station to try out the equipment, play games, and learn about fire safety. /TIM YANO Special to the Times



Captain Jenn McGovern places a fire hat on a young visitor.



A young firefighter in training uses a water gun to knock down a series of cups during the open house at the Minden Fire Hall.

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**DAVID ZILSTRA**  
Publisher and Ad Director,  
david.zilstra@gmail.com

**JENNIFER MCEATHRON**, Admin  
jenniferm@haliburtonpress.com

**DEBBIE COMER**, Circulation  
debbie@haliburtonpress.com

**EMILY STONEHOUSE**, Editor  
emily@haliburtonpress.com

**JAMES MATTHEWS**,  
Local Journalism  
Initiative Reporter  
james@haliburtonpress.com

**VIVIAN COLLINGS**, Reporter  
vivian@haliburtonpress.com

**KAREN LONDON**  
Production Co-ordinator  
karen@haliburtonpress.com



**STACEY POTATIVO**  
Production

**REED SACHAROFF**  
Production

**LAURA SMITH**, Sales  
laura@haliburtonpress.com

**PAUL BANELOPOULOS**, Sales  
paul@haliburtonpress.com

**INSIDE SALES**  
classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

2 IGA Road, Box 97  
Minden, ON, K0M 2K0  
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## Head in the sand

I'M SUPPOSED to write about the things that happen in our community.

But this week, as I kept my head down and dove into the happenings in our town, I felt the pull of distraction from the online world.

I find a lot of my news via social media. I read events that are going on and receive notifications for upcoming stories. But as I scrolled through to see what I could cover this week, I kept skipping past news about Israel and Palestine. It was everywhere.

"No, I can't read this," I would say to myself. "My mental health can't handle it." "I'll read up on it later." "Not now."

Like the most significant escalation of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in decades was an inconvenience to me.

But I couldn't turn it off. Finally, when I had the privilege of giving my mind some space to process the stories, I dove in.

I took it in small pieces. Because we all know that wars have happened for centuries around us, but this constant inundation of media surrounding the conflict can feel like drowning. If you too needed space to process, that's okay.

And I am not going to take this column to dive into the thousand-year history of this war. One, because this is not the platform to educate you. I strongly encourage everyone to take some time to do your own research from a variety of sources to understand better.

And two, because I don't fully understand it myself. I will be the first to admit that I need to do more research, need to talk to more people on the reasoning, the reckoning, the "reality".

It's not my place to share my stance on something I can't completely comprehend.

But what I can offer is my observations. While there is an

apparent enemy in the conversations, there seems to be some debate about who deserves what. And I think the root of that debate is grounded in misinformation, uncertainty, and fear. I understand that it's the role of political organizations to pick a side. But what often happens when parties lean into powers, is that people fall through the cracks.

So here is my simple observation: no civilian deserves to be killed. And considering there has been no formal political statement made in solidarity with all civilians, the blanket promises about protecting and preserving human rights are null.

And while all civilian life is important, the mass genocides that have occurred as this conflict has graced our social media screens just doesn't seem to be as prevalent. It's a well known fact that national politicians have quashed Canadians from organizing peaceful demonstrations to Free Palestine; a shout out to the deeply rooted and racially-charged fear that swirls at the surface

of allowing a group of Muslims to gather.

That political fear didn't seem to exist when the white supremacy-led convoy stopped traffic across the country, or an anti-trans march stormed towards our public schools to spew their rhetoric to all who would listen; initiatives that carried legitimate threats towards marginalized populations and community sanctity.

So if you too are feeling the pull of distraction from what's happening in the world, maybe it's time to listen to that call. Look beyond the corners of our community, and address the tug of human connection that tethers us together.

Because while some of us do have the privilege to put our heads down, that won't stop us from the reality of the world we live in.



**EMILY STONEHOUSE**  
Editor

## Kwarky



Manoversplaining

## Legends of the fall

LATE LAST week, while grouse hunting, one of our party called for help. When we arrived at his location, we found him elbow deep in a hole that prior to his rapid descent, he did not know existed. Because his hands were occupied holding a camera at the time, he landed elbows first on the flat rocks bordering the hole. And this kept him from falling further but also inflicted a small but nasty cut on his right elbow which we enthusiastically patched up.

When we were done, we gave him a standing ovation, and I patted him on the back, offered sincere congratulations, and thanked him profusely.

For in my 47 years of hunting, this was one of the most creative and, dare I say it, understated and elegant falls I have ever seen.

Sure, he did not incorporate prolonged screaming, splashing, breaking of branches, or audible thuds, or even post-fall whimpering, but this fall had a charm all of its own.

Which is to say, I have witnessed and even participated in falls that were far more exciting and glamorous, but this one had a certain je ne sais quoi that I doubt I'll ever see again. It was artful. You should have been there.

The interesting part was that the fellow who fell was young and, by his own admission, relatively inexperienced at falling. Yet there he went, creating a fall that made the best of us green with envy. And then he acted as if it were nothing.

Most newbies to falling in the outdoors start with the routine attempts – and rightly so. Tripping over a stick, slipping

down a muddy slope, windmilling before splatting face first on glare ice, falling off a log that spans a creek, taking one step too many off a cliff or dock – you know, the classics. But not this fellow.

No sir, he immediately attempted something with a difficulty factor that most experienced fallers would think twice about. Frankly, I see big things in his future.

Not to brag, but I am considered as somewhat of a legend in the field. When I was in my prime, I once tripped over a particularly dense patch of air and took a fall on a level, manicured lawn that

lasted for a full three minutes and ended in a fiery explosion. I also pioneered several techniques that are still in use today, such as the modified, "Yiiiiiii!!!!!!" I was also the first person to routinely incorporate turf, twigs, and mud into my finish.

Though I am not much of a faller anymore, I still practice at least once a week, mostly in the yard, where mother nature

has set up a good obstacle course, which some people call a forest. And when I am in top form, I can still keep up with the best of them.

All this is to say that I know a thing or two about falling.

I have an appreciation for it. I know how to do it and I know how to judge it. I know what good falling is. And I also recognize when someone has great potential.

What I saw last week was impeccable. It showed incredible promise. Would I call that young man a prodigy? I'm not sure.

But he did take the fall to a hole other level.



**STEVE GALEA**  
Beyond 35



## IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

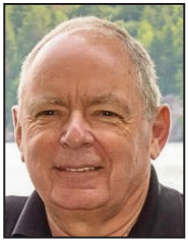
# Replaced by a computer

I'VE TRIED to ignore all the hype about artificial intelligence (AI). How it will transform work and reinvent business. How it will replace me as a writer.

Any little attention I have given it has been with a great amount of skepticism.

Until now.

I've just watched a 60 Minutes television news program in which CBS reporter Scott Pelley took a look at Google's new piece of artificial intelligence named Bard.



**JIM POLING SR.**

*From Shaman's Rock*

Pelley typed Bard a request asking it to produce a story based on six words. The six words were:

For sale. Baby shoes. Never worn.

In shockingly quick time Bard composed and spit out the following story:

"The shoes were a gift from my wife, but we never had a baby. They were sitting in the closet, collecting dust, and I knew they would never be used. So I decided to sell them.

"I put an ad in the paper, and I got a few responses.

But the one that stood out was from a woman who said she had lost her baby a few months ago. She said she would love to have the shoes as a way to remember her child.

"I met with the woman, and she told me how she had been trying to conceive for years. She had finally gotten pregnant, but she had a miscarriage. She said she was devastated, and she didn't know how she was going to go on.

"But then she saw my ad, and she knew she had to have the shoes. She said they would give her some comfort, and they would help her to remember her child.

"I gave her the shoes and she was grateful. She said they meant the world to her.

"I'm glad I was able to help her and I'm glad to find a good home for the shoes."

A human story, written by a computer using artificial intelligence!

A shocked Pelley said: "It created a deeply human tale with characters it invented. I am rarely speechless, I don't know what to make of this."

As an aside, the six words Pelley gave to Bard to create a story have a history. Back in the 1920s, author Ernest Hemingway is said to have bet some other writers \$10 that he could write a novel in six words. So Hemingway wrote: For sale. Baby shoes. Never worn. And won the bet.

The fact that artificial intelligence could produce a real story from those six words is amazing, and alarming.

Some people are concerned that AI, while increasing productivity and efficiency, will eliminate thousands of human jobs. There also is concern that AI-produced fake news will create chaos in many fields, from law enforcement to politics.

Geoffrey Hinton, a retired Google executive who has been called the Godfather of Artificial Intelligence, worries that AI has the potential to one day take over from humanity.

"I think my main message is there's enormous uncertainty about what's going to happen next," he said in an interview with Pelley. "These things (AIs) do understand. And because they understand, we need to think hard about what's going to happen next. And we just don't know."

It's certainly important that further development of AI not be left solely to huge tech companies like Google. Many different segments of society need to be involved to ensure the benefits of AI are promoted safely while potential harm is controlled by regulations, and laws that punish abusers.

Said Google CEO Sundar Pichai in an interview last spring:

"This is why I think the development of this needs to include not just engineers, but social scientists, ethicists, philosophers and so on. . . . I think these are all things society needs to figure out as we move along. It's not for a company to decide."

Certainly AI is scary because even the experts don't know its full capabilities, or where it is going next. Hinton expects that within five years AI models like ChatGPT may be able to reason better than humans.

So if in the next while you notice this column reads a bit differently – perhaps lacking its usual human flair and spark – you'll know that I have been replaced by a computer.

# Seven common-sense principles for a new Economic Charter

SURVEY AFTER survey shows that Canadians regard our human Charter of Rights and Freedoms as this country's most important and enduring national symbol – and rightly so.

The Charter gives us a number of democratic rights, including freedom of expression and freedom of association, as well as the right to life and liberty.

But it's always been puzzling to me that we don't have an economic charter of rights, one that includes the right of workers to get a share of the wealth they help create.

In last week's column, I talked about the need to create an Economic Charter of Rights and Responsibilities in Canada.

I believe Canada could become one of the first countries in the world to formally establish an Economic Charter of Rights and Responsibilities. The charter would include rights that guarantee Canadians participation in the economy as well as responsibilities that oblige government to adopt a more fiscally sound approach when it comes to managing public finances.

In other words, an economic charter of rights would go a long way in terms of ensuring that our economy functions properly and that Canadians get a fair share of the profits they help produce.

I believe most Canadians would agree with the following seven common-sense rights and responsibilities. If adopted, they would create a healthier and more prosperous country and improve the living standards of all Canadians.

1. Reduce our mushrooming national debt by 5 per cent per year for 20 years in order to be debt-free within two decades – the best legacy we can leave behind for our children and grandchildren.

2. Halt the out-of-control growth of government bureaucracy by cutting government overhead by 5 per cent per year over the next decade.

3. Simplify our tax system by making it straightforward, clear-cut and fair, while also eliminating loopholes, tax breaks and deductions for the rich and special interests.

4. Give workers a slice of the profits they help produce by making companies with more than 300 employees share 20 per cent of their annual profits. Sharing profits ensure that wealth is spread more evenly within society.

5. Unleash Canada's small businesses by slashing red tape, removing regulatory burdens that stifle economic growth and productivity, and eliminating the business income tax. We need to give Canada's small business owners and entrepreneurs

the runway they need to grow and hire more employees.

6. Reform our education system by introducing more skilled trades apprenticeships so young Canadians have greater career opportunities and access to good-paying jobs.

7. Ensure that every child in Canada has a healthy organic meal at school and learns about nutrition.

But we can only bring about these changes by sparking a national grassroots movement of concerned citizens who support the adoption of an economic charter of rights.

With an economic charter, we could rein in Canada's spiralling debt, restore balanced budgets, handcuff government spending, chop needless red tape and regulations, simplify and streamline our tax system, usher in profit sharing for millions of hard-working Canadians, and unshackle our country's entrepreneurs and small business owners.

The truth is, our human charter of rights alone is not sufficient – it needs to be fortified with an economic charter of rights.

Economic charters of rights will lead to economic democracies, and economic democracies are the basis for democracy itself.

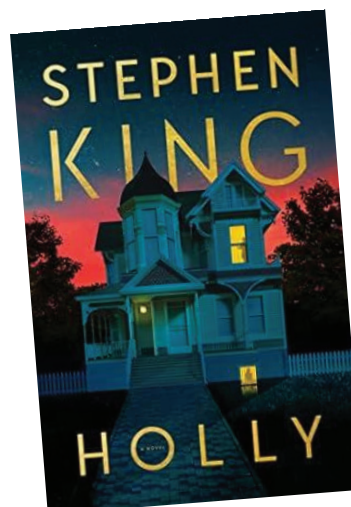
*Frank Stronach is the founder of Magna International Inc., one of Canada's largest global companies, and was inducted into the Automotive Hall of Fame. fstronachlpc@gmail.com*



**FRANK STRONACH**

*Principles*

## HCPL's Book of the week



When Penny Dahl calls the Finders Keepers detective agency hoping for help locating her missing daughter, Holly Gibney is reluctant to accept the case. Her partner, Pete, has Covid. Her mother has just died. And Holly is meant to be on leave. But something in Penny Dahl's desperate voice makes it impossible for Holly to turn her down.

Mere blocks from where Bonnie Dahl disappeared live Professors Rodney and Emily Harris. They are the picture of respectability: married octogenarians and semi-retired lifelong academics. But they are harboring an unholy secret in the basement of their well-kept, book-lined home, one that may be related to Bonnie's disappearance. And it will prove nearly impossible to discover what they are up to: they are savvy, they are patient, and they are ruthless.

*Holly* by Stephen King is available to borrow from the Haliburton County Public Library.



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**Tickets Available for the 2024 Cash Calendar**  
When: Now until sold out  
Where: Multiple Locations- See Description  
The Haliburton and District Lions Club is now selling tickets for their 2024 Super Cash Calendar. Three draws happen the second Monday of every month from January 8th to October 14th 2024. Please visit [www.haliburtonlions.com](http://www.haliburtonlions.com) for a list of ticket locations and for more information.

**Contract Bridge**  
When: Every Tuesday, 9 a.m. to noon  
Where: Minden United Church basement, 21 Newcastle Street  
Our weekly contract bridge has resumed and it's hoped that many of those who played before Covid will come back, along with new members. All levels of skill welcomed.

**Celebrating 20 Years of Broadcasting**  
When: Oct.19, 1:30 pm  
Where: Haliburton Museum, 66 Museum Road  
The Haliburton County Historical Society invites you to an afternoon with Roxanne Casey, manager of Canoe FM, in celebrating 20 years of broadcasting. Light refreshments will be served.

**Friends of the HCPL 15th Annual Gala and Silent Auction**  
When: Sunday, Oct. 22, 1 p.m.  
Where: Minden Hills Library Branch  
Our guest speaker is Maureen Jennings, award winning author of the Murdoch Mystery Books. Enjoy our silent auction with incredible items. Light refreshments will be served. Advance tickets are \$25.00. (cash or cheque only)

Contact Pat Brezina 705-286-1958 or Sue Sisson 705-286-2000.

**Coffeehouse**  
When: Monday, October 23, 7 to 8 pm  
Where: Castle Antiques, 223 Highland St. Haliburton  
Please join us for live music and uplifting conversation contributing to our own personal well-being and that of our community. Light refreshments available. Free admission, welcoming people of all backgrounds. Sponsored by the Baha'i community of Haliburton.

**Annual Ducks Unlimited Dinner & Auction**  
When: Oct. 27, 5:30 p.m.  
Where: Pinestone Resort, 4252 County Rd 21  
Doors open at 5:30 p.m. for cocktails, merchandise viewing and raffle ticket sales. Dinner will be at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$60 per person. Call Shannon Stinson: 705-455-2429 for tickets

**Minden Legion Branch 636**  
**Lunch - Monday to Friday**  
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**Tuesday:** Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.  
**Thursday:** Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.  
**Every other Friday:** Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m. Friday Fish & Chips & Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.  
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letters to the editor

# A plea to Doug Ford

**To the Editor,**

The following is an open letter to the Premier of Ontario:

Dear Premier Doug Ford and the Progressive Conservative Party of Ontario,

We write to you with an urgency that cannot be overstated. On Thursday, October 5, 2023, during the session of the Ontario Legislature, members of the Re-Open Minden's ER Committee, alongside 15 dedicated MPs representing diverse party lines, presented a petition bearing a staggering 10,797 signatures. These signatures represent the collective voice of over 10,000 concerned Ontario residents, demanding one thing: the immediate re-opening of the Minden Emergency Room.

The significance of this demand cannot be ignored. It's a resounding call from our community and the entire province, transcending political affiliations. This shared commitment to the health and safety of our community underscores the importance of this matter. But, let us be clear, this number is just the beginning. It merely scratches the surface of the support and the numbers that will inevitably join our call to reopen the ER. The true breadth of this movement extends well beyond the 10,797 signatures presented, with countless more individuals and their families affected by our and other Rural ER closures, standing ready to raise their voices in unison.

Your government, elected on the principles of supporting the People of Ontario, should stand for the well-being of all citizens. Premier Ford, we implore you in the strongest terms to honour the expectations of these 10,000+ Ontario residents and take swift and decisive action to re-open the Minden ER. The closure of this crucial healthcare facility has left a gaping hole in our healthcare system, endangering lives during emergencies and placing a strain on other local hospitals.

We understand the complexities involved in healthcare decisions, but the collective roar of 10,000+ residents cannot be ignored. Now is the moment to prioritize our region's welfare and make the necessary arrangements to ensure access to vital emergency services. This is not just a political issue; it's a matter of public health, and it's time to act.

The safety and well-being of our community cannot be sacrificed. We expect and demand your immediate response and action on this pressing issue and look forward to your party's active involvement in safeguarding rural healthcare.

Resolutely,

**Patrick Porzuczek, on behalf of the  
Re-Open Minden's ER Committee  
Minden**

# The Hazardous Algal Bloom (HAB) Challenge

With climate change raising lake water temperatures and shoreline development putting more nutrients into the water column, outbreaks of hazardous algal blooms (HABs) are on the rise across the region, including Haliburton and Muskoka watersheds.

With other human activities, like runoff from road salt, contributing to the decline of algae-eating zooplankton, we need to become better at understanding, predicting and dealing with the risks and challenges posed by Blue-Green Algae or Cyanobacterial blooms.

Thankfully, we have some of the world's leading algal experts living and working close at hand, including Dr. Norman Yan, an aquatic biologist with years of local scientific experience working out of the Dorset Environmental Science Centre and with the Friends of the Muskoka Watershed.

A growing number of Haliburton County residents are coming face-to-face with the impact hazardous algal blooms can pose for the health of family members and pets. Susan and Keith Hay endured an outbreak on the lake where they reside in Dysart Township in 2020, which shut down simple acts previously taken for granted, such as washing hands, showering, and flushing the toilet with lake water.


"All were potentially harmful", says Ms Hay, adding ... that "no type of water purification system could reliably make the water safe. Not chlorine, not boiling, not ultraviolet, not any type of filter."

The Hays ended up having to replace their lake-based water system with an expensive drilled well.

Environment Haliburton! (EH!) and the Friends of the Muskoka Watershed (FMW) have invited Dr. Yan to share the latest in HAB science on the causes of HABs and the preventative actions we can take to reduce the human and wider environmental risks.

This virtual presentation takes place on Tuesday Oct. 24 at 7 p.m. Please register in advance by visiting the EH! Website at [www.environmenthaliburton.org](http://www.environmenthaliburton.org).

*Submitted by Environment Haliburton!*



Have a thought, comment or opinion  
you'd like to share?

Send a letter to the editor to  
[emily@haliburtonpress.com](mailto:emily@haliburtonpress.com)



# Minden Pride will not engage

Leaders behind the 1 Million March 4 Children / Hands off our Kids Movement are planning to hold a Stop the War on Children Rally in Haliburton on Saturday, Oct. 21.

This group is advocating for the “elimination of Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) curriculum, and for the removal of pronouns, gender ideology and gender-neutral bathrooms in schools” as outlined in their website. Their stated mission is to “Stand up to Free Children of the Bondage of Indoctrination breaking the system designed to sexualize children.”

On Sept. 20 in response to its first protest, Minden Pride spearheaded a peaceful counter protest to demonstrate local opposition to their ideology. Our position holds that there is considerable confusion, discrimination and misinformation circulating within this fringe group’s assertion that the Health and Physical Education (HPE) curriculum offered in Ontario ‘sexualizes children.’ Minden Pride will not re-engage with these protestors at this second event.

Leaders of this movement claim they are not anti-LGBTQ, but the verbal interchange with Minden Pride and our supporters at the Sept. 20 protest was telling, with hateful language freely expressed by protestors towards our counter-protestors. Anti-2SLGBTQ signs using language such as ‘grooming’ and ‘indoctrination’ confirmed a far more discriminatory agenda.

Contrary to reports, Minden Pride did in fact engage with the leadership at the demonstration. While a civil exchange occurred, it was clear that there can be no middle ground in this highly charged climate of misinformation.

As a result, we believe our collective focus must now be to provide factual information to counteract unfounded claims by this group, and to focus public attention on their veiled agenda.

Their claim: SOGI curriculum threatens children’s innocence. The reality is SOGI is not taught or part of the approved Ontario Ministry of Education curriculum. The current curriculum and student learnings for Kindergarten, Elementary Gr. 1-8 and Secondary 9-12 are available online. These documents provide detailed information to parents on what is being taught to children.

Their claim: That parents have no rights or control regarding their children’s exposure to Health and Physical Education is false. The reality is, as mandated by the Ontario provin-



Tensions were high in Haliburton as 1 Million March 4 Children protestors walked along Head Lake toward the public schools with counter-protestors lining both sides of the walkway on Wednesday, Sept. 20. /FILE

cial government, all parents have the right to exempt their child from instruction of the human development and sexual health education component of the elementary Health and Physical Education curriculum. (HPE).

Student learning about human development, sexual health, and inclusivity promotes self confidence and acceptance within a diverse world. As outlined in the Ontario Policy of Equity and Inclusion:

“In an environment based on the principles of inclusive education, all students, parents, caregivers, and other members of the school community – regardless of ancestry, culture, ethnicity, sex, disability, race, colour, religion, age, marital or family status, creed, gender identity/expression, gender, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, or other factors – are welcomed, included, treated fairly, and respected. Diversity is valued when all members of the school community feel safe, welcomed, and accepted. Every student is supported and inspired to succeed in a culture of high expectations for learning.

Research has shown that students who do not see themselves reflected in what they are

learning in their classrooms and schools, become disengaged and do not experience as great a sense of well-being or as high a level of academic achievement as those who do.”

Minden Pride stands with our educators to protect the health, safety, and wellbeing of all students. We believe that an education system that is not open and inclusive is fun-

damentally unhealthy and excludes the most vulnerable of us in society. Minden Pride has built active and strong relationships with the leaders of the schools and libraries in Haliburton County, working together to support a diverse educational environment.

We will continue to uphold our mandate to support the members of our community against the tropes and rhetoric, misconceptions, accusations, and outright falsehoods that are being used to promote an ideology that is harmful toward members of our 2SLGBTQ community and the community at large.

We strongly urge parents of school-age children to become familiar with your local school curriculum. Engage with educators and administrators to become comfortable with teaching approaches and content. And connect with your own children regularly to support their curiosity as they grow into strong and confident young people.

## Minden Pride 2023 Committee

### References:

The Ontario Elementary School Curriculum:

<https://www.dcp.edu.gov.on.ca/en/curriculum#elementary>.

The Ontario Secondary School (HPE) Curriculum:

<https://www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/curriculum/secondary/health9to12.pdf>

Minden Pride is a volunteer-driven, non-profit Haliburton County committee operating as part of Haliburton County Community Cooperative In. (HCCC Inc.).

*Submitted by Minden Pride*





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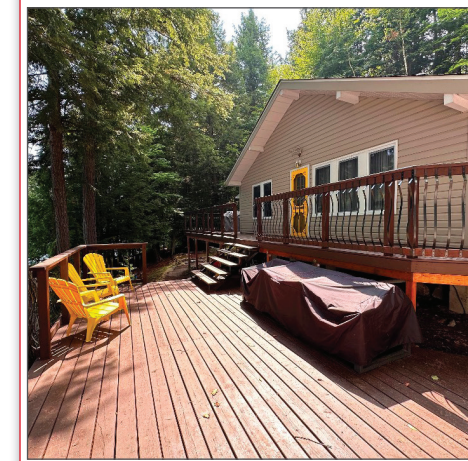
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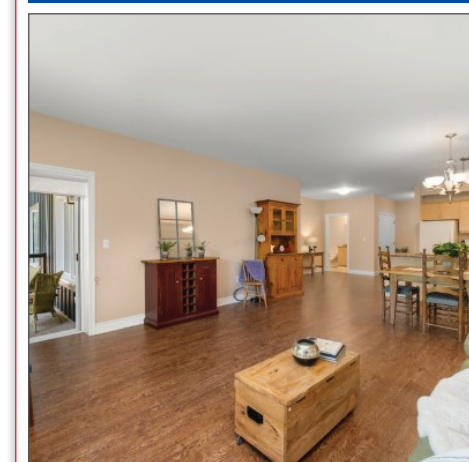
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**Committee of Adjustment - Notice of Public Hearing  
Application For Minor Variance**

**TAKE NOTICE THAT** The Committee of Adjustment of the Township of Minden Hills will hold a Public Hearing on:

**DATE:** Monday, October 30, 2023

**TIME:** 9:30 AM

**LOCATION:** This will be a hybrid meeting. Members of the public may attend either in person or electronically via Zoom. Details are provided below.

**To Attend in Person:**

**Location:** Members of the Public wishing to watch the meeting in person can do so by attending the Township Council Chambers, located at 7 Milne Street, Minden.

**To Participate:** Members of the public wishing to participate and make comment/speak at the public meeting must pre-register by emailing [dssison@mindenhills.ca](mailto:dssison@mindenhills.ca) by **Friday October 27, 2023 before 4:00 PM** or by registering the morning of the meeting before 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers.

**To Attend Electronically:**

**To Watch:** Members of the Public wishing to watch the meeting can do so by joining the Meeting Live Stream Link:

<https://youtube.com/live/ZM-Wfzo48c8?feature=share>

The live-stream link provided for each meeting will only be activated while the meeting is in session.

**To Participate:** Members of the public wishing to participate and make comment/speak at the public meeting must pre-register by emailing [dssison@mindenhills.ca](mailto:dssison@mindenhills.ca) by **Friday October 27, 2023 before 4:00 PM** or by attending electronically and registering the morning of the meeting before 9:00 AM. Once registered, participants will automatically be placed into a holding room and brought into the meeting as permitted by the Chair. To attend the Zoom virtual meeting via Web, type: [https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81485143085?pwd=vMr7rHJttc7e3nKmB\\_VhrsZlRlYQA.DeNX8vtXkAcUs3hr](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81485143085?pwd=vMr7rHJttc7e3nKmB_VhrsZlRlYQA.DeNX8vtXkAcUs3hr) into your browser or attend by dialing the number below:

Telephone: 1-647-374-4685 or 1-647-558-0588

Webinar ID: 814 8514 3085

Passcode: 647762

**Participants registering either virtually or in person after 9:00 AM will not be permitted into the public hearing.**

The purpose of the Public Meeting will be to consider Minor Variance Applications **PLMV2023019**, **PLMV2023041**, **PLMV2023042** and **PLMV2023046** and the proposed minor variances to the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law pursuant to Section 45 of the Planning Act as shown below:

**PLMV2023019** - Part Lot 11, Concession 3, Geographic Township of Anson; municipally known as 1419 Claude Brown Road, located on Bob Lake (See Key Map).

**Purpose and Effect of the Application:** The purpose of the application is to seek relief from the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law 06-10, as amended, to permit the reconstruction and enlargement of a detached dwelling and attached decks. The effect of the application would be to permit a reduction in setbacks for the dwelling to the northerly shoreline from 67.5 ft (20.6 m) to 60.4 ft (18.4 m), and to the westerly shoreline from 64.3 ft (19.6 m) to 62 ft (18.8 m); together with reducing the easterly shoreline setback of the attached deck from 32 ft (10 m) to 25.6 ft (7.8 m), whereas a minimum setback of 75 ft (23 m) is required and which otherwise would have the effect of increasing the extent of existing non-compliance. In addition, approval would also allow an increase in the height from 18 ft (5.6 m) to 34 ft (10.4 m), together with the total size of the dwelling and attached deck from 870 sq.ft (80.8 sq.m) to 1212 sq. ft (112.6 sq.m) whereas no increase in height or size is permitted within 49 ft (15 m) of the shoreline and where otherwise a maximum increase of height and size of 4 ft (1.2 m) and 25%, respectively is permitted.



**PLMV2023041** - Part Lot 4, Concession A, Geographic Township of Minden; located at 23 Invergordon Avenue, Minden (See Key Map).

**Purpose and Effect of the Application:** The purpose of the application is to seek relief from the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law 06-10, as amended, to permit the replacement/enlargement of the legal non-complying attached deck on three (3) of the legal non-complying resort rental cabins. The effect of the application would be to permit a reduction in the setback from a nearby watercourse (drainage swale) from 47 ft (14.3 m) and 46.5 ft (14.1 m) to 45 ft (13.7 m); whereas a minimum setback of 50 ft (15 m) is required. In addition, approval would also allow an increase in the size of the subject decks to 72.5 sq ft (6.7 sq.m) 90 sq ft (8.3 sq.m) and 92 sq ft (8.5 sq.m) from 45 sq ft (4.1 sq.m), 36 sq ft (3.3 sq.m) and 52 sq ft (4.8 sq.m) respectively, whereas a maximum increase of 25% is otherwise permitted.



**PLMV2023042** - Part Lot 7, Concession 1, Geographic Township of Anson; located at 1138 Tennyson Road (See Key Map).

**Purpose and Effect of the Application:** The purpose and effect of the application is to provide relief from the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law 06-10, as amended, to permit the construction of a single storey detached garage having a ground floor area of 550 sq ft (51.0 sq. m), to be located in the front yard, being closer to the public road than the main dwelling.



**PLMV2023046** - Part Lot 20, Concession 12, Geographic Township of Lutterworth; municipally known as 2262 Deep Bay Road (See Key Map).

**Purpose and Effect of the Application:** The purpose of the application is to provide relief from the Township of Minden Hills Zoning By-law 06-10, as amended, to permit the replacement of a gazebo located 8.5 ft (2.6 m) from a stream with a shed. The effect of the application would be to permit the new shed to be located 8.5 ft (2.6 m) from the high-water mark of a watercourse, whereas otherwise a 49 ft (15 m) setback is required.



**Additional information** regarding these applications will be available online. Links to meeting agendas and full reports can be found on our Minden Hills Civic Web. A copy of the complete applications will be available for public inspection at the Township of Minden Hills Building and Planning Department by appointment only.

**Input on the above noted applications is welcome and encouraged.** You can provide input by speaking at the public meeting or by making a written submission to the Township. To provide input in writing, or to request written notice of the decision, please contact the undersigned or e-mail [adougherty@mindenhills.ca](mailto:adougherty@mindenhills.ca).

**Any person or agency** who is of the opinion that holding the hearing as a hybrid/combined in-person and electronic hearing is likely to cause them significant prejudice, may make a submission to the undersigned, and if the Committee is satisfied that holding the hearing as hybrid is likely to cause the party significant prejudice then the hearing will be re-scheduled as an oral hearing only. If a person or agency does not make a submission to the Secretary-Treasurer prior to the hearing, and the person or agency does not participate in the hearing in accordance with this Notice, then the Committee may proceed without the party's participation and the party will not be entitled to any further notice in the proceeding.

**Accessibility:** The Township of Minden Hills is committed to providing services as set out in the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005. If you have accessibility needs and require alternative formats or other accommodations, please contact the undersigned.

**Privacy Disclosure:** As one of the purposes of the Planning Act is to provide for planning processes that are open and accessible, all written submissions, documents, correspondence, e-mails or other communications (including your name and address) form part of the public record and may be disclosed/made available by the Township as deemed appropriate, including anyone requesting such information. Please note that by submitting any of this information, you are providing the Township with your consent to use and disclose this information as part of the planning process.

For more information about this matter contact at [adougherty@mindenhills.ca](mailto:adougherty@mindenhills.ca) or 705-286-1260 ext. 506

Amanda Dougherty  
Manager of Planning Services , Secretary-Treasurer, Committee of Adjustment  
P.O. Box 359, 7 Milne Street, Minden ON, K0M 2K0

# The Big Bad Booby Ball FUNdraiser

It's Breast Cancer Awareness month. Join us at our FUNdraising event. Co-hosted by The Rockcliffe and The Riverside Inn (event happening at The Rockcliffe), you'll enjoy a great evening for an even better cause. All proceeds will be split between our dear friend who is fighting the fight, and The Kelly Shires Foundation. Space is limited, be sure to get your tickets!

Tickets are \$25/per person (available at the link in our bio, on this promotion and also at the door!) Your ticket includes a welcome drink and swag bag (first 100 attendees) and more. We will also feature a Silent Auction, Pay-to-Play Karaoke, a BRA-stume Contest with prizes (decorate a bra and dress up to win) and pink-themed cocktails.

Thanks to our friends at Boshkung Brewing Co. for creating the "I Pink I Can" Pilsner, which you can purchase while you're at the event.

When purchasing tickets online, the following add-ons are available: Optional Donation, FU Cancer T-shirt, Pink Ribbon hat.

About the Kelly Shires Breast Cancer Foundation: The Trust was established to offer financial assistance to those diagnosed with breast cancer across Canada. There can be many unforeseen expenses which public or private healthcare may not cover. We offer assistance to breast cancer patients in these situations to help make their fight with cancer a little less challenging.

Thank you to all partners involved in this event, including Boshkung Brewing Co. and Pat and Steve Karaoke.

Tickets:

Available at the door and online here:

[www.opentable.com/booking/experiences-availability?rid=844960&restref=844960&experienceId=205923&utm\\_source=external&utm\\_medium=referral&utm\\_campaign=shared](https://www.opentable.com/booking/experiences-availability?rid=844960&restref=844960&experienceId=205923&utm_source=external&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=shared)

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\*Not intended to solicit properties or clients currently listed





### Ice dancing with the stars

Six Minden Skating Club skaters left Minden bright and early on Oct. 2 for a full day of on and off ice classes with world champion figure skater Elvis Stojko and professional figure skater Gladys Orozco in Oshawa. The students worked on jumps, spins, and field moves during the full day of training. They came home tired and excited to try out their new skills on home ice. Pictured from left are Paislee Cybulski, Kinsley Murdoch, Brianna Cartwright, Declan Brown, Elsie Murdoch, Elvis Stojko and Kathryn Murdoch. /Submitted by Jane Symons



Back row, Brianna Cartwright, Gladys Orozco, Kinsley Murdoch, Elvis Stojko, Elsie Murdoch, and front row Kathryn Cartwright and Paislee Cybulski (missing Declan Brown) stop for a photo during the seminar.

### SUDOKU SOLUTION

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### Red Hawks soar

The Red Hawk Junior Girls Cross Country team of Grace Alder, Olivia Gruppe, Violet Humphries and Ella Gervais captured the second-place team title at the Bay of Quinte Invitational Cross Country Meet held Oct. 4 at Dunnett Orchards in Brighton. Violet Humphries led the junior team with a fifth-place finish, closely followed by Grace Alder 12th; Olivia Gruppe 13th and Ella Gervais in 25th. The team had the lowest score of the ten junior girls teams at the meet. /Submitted by Karen Gervais

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# Huskies stun Trenton in week six victory

by ALEX GALLACHER  
Special to the Times

The Haliburton County Huskies concluded their week six campaign in the OJHL with a record of one win and one loss. While they expected to play three games against the Leamington Flyers, Markham Royals and Trenton Golden Hawks, the Friday night game against the Royals would be postponed due to the safety concerns.

However, splitting the remaining two games, the Huskies have gained much needed momentum heading into their two game road trip in week seven.

## Unlucky in Leamington

The Huskies made the five hour journey down the 400 series highways to the Nature Farms Recreation Complex in Leamington. The first of two OJHL expansion clubs for 2023, the Flyers came off a record year in the GOJHL JR B league. Going 35-11-4 in the regular season the Flyers beat the Stratford Warriors 4-3 to capture the Sutherland Cup.

A tough challenge lay ahead for the Huskies. Cameron Arquette drew first blood for the Flyers beating Logan Kennedy at the 6:59 mark. Antonio Cerqua tallied is first as a Husky to bring the squad back to level, but it was short lived as former Husky Alex Cunningham made it 2-1 Flyers heading into



#30 Huskies Goalie Vlad Visan makes a big save on Oct. 14 in Minden. /TIM YANO special to the Times

the first intermission.

Charlie Fink brought the Huskies back to even ground at the 1:36 mark of the second period, and sadly this would be the final Huskies goal as the Flyers would pull away scoring three goals in the second courtesy

of Cunningham, Cayden Faust and Max Anderson. The third period would fair no better, Cunningham completed the hat trick against his former team while Cade Bell and Griffin Grunder sent the Huskies back home with a stunning 8-2 loss.

Huskies defenseman Hunter Martell left the game after taking an awkward fall into the boards. Martell was taken to a local hospital for precautionary checks, where he would be released the same night. Martell unfortunately would be out for upcoming games against Markham and Trenton.

## Markham postponed

Game two of the weekend saw the Huskies head to Markham to take on the Royals. In what was going to be a fantastic tilt, Adam Smeeton smashed a pane of glass during the warmups. The glass shattered all over the ice, and after a lengthy clean up, a replacement pane of glass wasn't found until after both teams deemed they would revisit this game at a later date.

The match has been postponed to a too be determined date.

## Glory against the Golden Hawks

If you are an OG Huskies fan, then you may know about the long and tense history between these two clubs. The Huskies and Golden Hawks have been bitter rivals since the beginning, with each game being more exciting than the last.

The Huskies took to the ice against the Golden Hawks on Saturday afternoon, and fans in attendance were treated to a barn burner. David Fournier opened the scoring for the Hawks four minutes in to the match, burying a feed in front of Vlad Visan to send the Huskies to the locker room down one. The first period saw a staggering nine penalties awarded, five for Haliburton and four for Trenton.

The Huskies penalty kill was on rails all night long, and did a stellar job to limit offensive chances and shut down a highly ranked Trenton powerplay unit.

Ty Petrou sent the Huskies faithful into a frenzy when he tied the game up at the 10:22 mark of the second period. Petrou's third of the season gave the Huskies momentum to do what many thought was impossible: beat the number two ranked Golden Hawks.

The third period saw the Huskies mount an assault on Ben Bonisteel and the Trenton goal. Out-shooting the Hawks 25-16 over the last two periods, one of the shots was bound to find twine.

At 11:08 of the third, Captain Patty Saini tipped in a point shot from Jack Staniland to give the Huskies the lead with just under half the period left to play. The Nesbitt erupted into cheers as the Huskies, in search of a much needed win, needed to hold on.

As the clock wound down, Visan shut the door 32 times to give the Huskies a 2-1 win over the red hot Golden Hawks. Coach Ryan Ramsay called the game a complete effort all around, and was extremely happy with his team post game.

Following the win, the Huskies move to 6-5-2 on the year and sit eighth in the division.

Week seven will see no Huskies home games at the Nesbitt as the team heads on the road to Aurora and Trenton, before returning home on Tuesday, Oct. 24 against the Milton Menace.

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Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:  
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 13

Huskies pull off a 2-1 win against Trenton, who had only faced one loss in their 12 games prior to facing the Huskies.





### Terry's trails

Archie Stouffer Elementary school has officially added up the fundraising amounts from their Terry Fox Run on Sept. 22, and can confirm they have raised just over \$1,800 for The Terry Fox Foundation towards cancer research. The school sold Terry Fox t-shirts, collected "A Toonie for Terry", and accepted online donations. They wanted to thank their volunteers who made it possible for most classes to walk along the beautiful Minden River and Board Walk. /photo submitted



### Wonderful Woodlands

The 100 Women Who Care Organization of Haliburton County selected Woodlands Wildlife Sanctuary as their charity of choice this month, and donated \$6350 to the cause. The money will go towards purchasing custom medical equipment for the hundreds of wild animals that the wildlife sanctuary cares for. /EMILY STONEHOUSE staff

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## 580 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Thank you to all who entered!**

**The draw has raised \$27,000 after expenses to help  
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Lottery # M81978

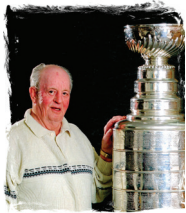


Minden Times

## Classifieds

Call 705-286-1288 classifieds@haliburtonpress.com Deadline 4 pm Each Monday

## 650 OBITUARIES

**Wendell Wood***(Resident of Haliburton)*

It is with great sadness, we announce the passing of Wendell Hugh Wood in his 91st year at his home at Extencicare, Haliburton. Beloved husband of the late Norma Wood (nee Avery). Loving father to Deborah (Al Cholette) Diane (Frederick Skaarup) and David (predeceased) and their families. Fondly remembered by his nieces Melinda (Michael), Wendy, Nancy, and their families. Also lovingly remembered by his special cousin Gloria Hutchison. Predeceased by his brother Wayne. Wendell spent more than 25 years working as a Paramedic in Haliburton County, providing care and comfort to the sick and injured. He was a caring and kind man, with a quiet sense of humor. He will be missed greatly by all who truly knew him.

**Visitation & Graveside Service**

Friends and family were invited to call at the **HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME** 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Monday morning, October 16, 2023, after 10 o'clock. A Graveside Service took place at Evergreen Cemetery, Haliburton at 11 o'clock. As an expression of sympathy, donations to Extencicare - Proud Pioneers would be appreciated by the family.

[www.communityfuneralhomes.com](http://www.communityfuneralhomes.com)



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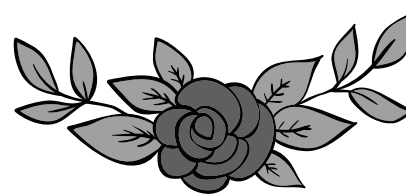
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## LOOK INSIDE



### Get inoculated

Haven't had your flu shot yet? Get it now from Andrea Prentice and crew.  
See page 2



### Get giggling

Comic Ron James will have 'em rolling in the aisles to help the Frost.  
See page 3



### Get dialling

Paula Thorn and the Stanhope "fire ladies" are at your beck and call.  
See page 17



### Get scared

Take the tykes to a haunted house at Pine Reflections.  
See page 24

### In Quotes

"I think you do feel enfranchisement in a small community more so than a larger one. You feel like you can make a difference."

Jeanne Anthon,  
on page 3



Lance Crossley/TIMES

### The cow farmer

Casey Cox, wearing the blue vest, is a man who just loves his cows and the traditional farming way of life he lives. Still, he's been facing some challenging issues these days – the cattle industry just isn't the same as it used to be. For story and more photos, please see page 8.

## Minden's own Jeanne Anthon is Highlander of the Year

by LANCE CROSSLEY  
Times staff

When Jeanne Anthon accepted the Highlander of the Year award last Friday night at the Delta Pinestone Resort, her speech was unusually brief. After the ceremonies she didn't stick around very long to accept congratulatory handshakes either. "I was embarrassed," she said a few days later. "I thought of all the people who volunteer and who could have been there with me or instead of me. So that had a bit of discomfort for me."

Anthon's modesty in receiving public accolades belies the person sitting at a table in the Village Chalet. She's immaculately decked out in a black turtleneck

sweater and dress pants. She possesses a dignified confidence and articulates her ideas as if she were heading a table at town council, which she did when she served as reeve of the former municipality of Anson, Hindon and Minden (now part of Minden Hills.)

The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce bestows the Highlander of the Year award to recognize an outstanding community leader in Haliburton County. There are few, if any, who could argue against the honour going her way. Her local activities have been nothing less than prolific. On top of the nine years she served in municipal politics, she presently works on nine

see SHE'S page 3

## Still no decision on who's going to market county

by MARTHA PERKINS  
Times staff

Rather than rush into a three-year commitment costing hundreds of thousands of dollars, county council decided to meet again with the two organizations bidding on the county's marketing contract.

"I sincerely believe we're not in the position to make a valid and intelligent decision based on the information we have at this time," said Dysart et al Reeve Murray Fearrey at Wednesday's county council meeting.

He said there were strengths and weaknesses in each proposal that need to be further explored. He suggested that the county form an ad hoc committee with representation from each municipality. The committee would meet with both David Page, a marketing and business communication consultant, and the Tourism Marketing Alliance, a

partnership of the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Haliburton.

The two bids are for a three-year contract to market the county. The county would provide from \$150,000 to \$200,000 a year.

County council heard presentations on the proposals on October 19 but was not able to make a decision at that time. Fearrey asked for a further delay on Wednesday "to determine that we are doing tourism marketing in the true sense of the word..."

"We need to work out contractual arrangements; then we'd have a chance to iron them out. At least then we'd have done a proper analysis and know that what we're doing is right for taxpayers and the county of Haliburton."

This committee would make its recommendation to council  
see COUNCILLORS page 2

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